



Source and Summit

General Principles

- The liturgy is the high point of our lives as Catholic Christians
- The liturgy is the source, the font, from which we find strength to live as Christ's people
- From the Eucharist, we are sent in mission, ready to glorify God by our lives

Source Documents

- 1 Cor 11:23-27
- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1322-1419
- *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* (Vatican II)
- *Mane Nobiscum Domine* (Pope St. John Paul II)
- *Sacramentum Caritatis* (Pope Benedict XVI)



Source Quotes

“Nevertheless the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the font from which all her power flows. For the aim and object of apostolic works is that all who are made sons of God by faith and baptism should come together to praise God in the midst of His Church, to take part in the sacrifice, and to eat the Lord's supper.”

-Vatican II, *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, #10.

“Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of His minister...but especially under the Eucharistic species. By His power He is present in the sacraments...He is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly, when the Church prays

and sings, for He promised: 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them' (Matt. 18:20)"

-*CSL*, #7.

"The sacred liturgy does not exhaust the entire activity of the Church. Before men can come to the liturgy they must be called to faith and to conversion: 'How then are they to call upon him in whom they have not yet believed? But how are they to believe him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear if no one preaches? And how are men to preach unless they be sent?'" (Rom. 10:14-15).

-*CSL*, #9.

"The liturgy, in itself, is not only spontaneous prayer, but something more and more original: it is an act that founds the whole Christian experience and, therefore, also prayer. It is event, it is happening, it is presence, it is encounter. It is an encounter with Christ. Christ makes himself present in the Holy Spirit through the sacramental signs: hence the need for us Christians to participate in the divine mysteries."

-Pope Francis, General Audience, 2/3/21

"A Christianity without a liturgy, I dare say, is perhaps a Christianity without Christ. Without Christ in full. Even in the sparest rite, such as that which some Christians have celebrated and continue to celebrate in places of incarceration, or in the seclusion of a house during times of persecution, Christ is truly present and gives Himself to His faithful."

-Pope Francis, General Audience, 2/3/21